



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250
Ag Statistics Hotline: 1-800-727-9540 • www.nass.usda.gov



Media Contact: USDA, NASS, West Virginia Field Office, Charleston, WV 25305, or call 1 (800) 535-7088 or E-mail at nass-wv@nass.usda.gov.

January 12, 2006

WEST VIRGINIA 2005 ANNUAL CROP PRODUCTION, WINTER WHEAT SEEDINGS, GRAIN AND HAY STOCKS

WEST VIRGINIA -- Wheat planted acres totaled 7,000 in 2005, down 1,000 acres from 2004. Area harvested for grain totaled 5,000 acres, the same as 2004. The average yield for 2005 was estimated to be 60.0 bushels per acre. This was up 8 bushels from 2004. Production was estimated at 300,000 bushels, up 15 percent or 40,000 bushels from 2004.

Winter wheat seedings for the 2006 crop are estimated at 8,000 acres, up 1,000 acres, or 14 percent, from 2005.

All hay harvested area in 2005 totaled 575,000 acres, the same as 2004. The average yield in 2005 was 1.86 tons per acre compared to 1.85 tons per acre in 2004. Production totaled 1.070 million tons, up from 1.062 million tons in 2004. **December On Farm Hay Stocks** was 984,000 tons, down 46,000 tons from 2004.

Alfalfa hay area harvested totaled 35,000 acres in 2005, down 10,000 acres from 2004. Yields in 2005 averaged 2.8 tons per acre, up 0.4 of a ton from 2004. Production totaled 98,000 tons, down 10,000 from 2004. New seedings of alfalfa in 2005 are estimated at 7,000 acres, up 4,000 acres from 2004 seedings.

All other hay area harvested totaled 540,000 acres in 2005, up 10,000 acres from 2004. Yields averaged 1.8 tons per acre, the same as 2004. Production totaled 972,000 tons, up 18,000 tons from 2004.

Area planted to **corn** for all purposes in 2005 totaled 45,000 acres, down 3,000 acres from 2004. Harvested area **for grain** totaled 28,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from 2004. The average yield of 109.0 bushels per acre was down 22 bushels from 2004. Production was 3.1 million bushels, down 18 percent from 2004.

Corn for silage area harvested was 16,000 acres in 2005, down 2,000 acres from 2004. Yields averaged 15.5 tons per acre which was 1.5 tons below the 2004 yield. Silage production was estimated at 248,000 tons, down 19 percent from 2004.

Burley tobacco area harvested totaled 400 acres in 2005, down 900 acres from 2004. Yields averaged 1,700 pounds per acre, up 400 pounds from 2004. Production for burley tobacco totaled 680,000 pounds in 2005, down 60 percent from 2004.

Area planted to **soybeans** totaled 18,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from 2004. Area harvested for beans totaled 17,000 acres, also down 1,000 acres from 2004. The yield for soybeans in 2005 averaged 35.0 bushels per acre, down 11 bushels from 2004. Production was estimated at 595,000 bushels, down 28 percent from 2004.

The total area planted to **principal crops** in West Virginia totaled 645,000 acres in 2005, down 6,000 acres from 2004. Area harvested totaled 641,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from 2004. Principal crops include acres planted to corn, soybeans and wheat, and acres harvested for hay and tobacco.

UNITED STATES WITH PREVIOUS YEAR COMPARISONS

- All wheat production - 2.10 billion bushels, down 2%.
- Winter wheat production - 1.5 billion bushels, same as 2004.
- 2006 winter wheat seedings - 41.4 million acres, up 2% from 2005.
- 2005 alfalfa seedings – 3.3 million acres, up 18% from 2004.
- Alfalfa hay production - 75.8 million tons, up slightly.
- All other hay production - 74.8 million tons, down 10%.
- All hay production - 150.6 million tons, down 5 percent.
- Corn planted for all purposes area - 81.8 million acres, up 1%.
- Corn for grain harvested area - 75.1 million acres, up 2%.
- Corn for grain production - 11.1 billion bushels, down 6%.
- Corn for grain yield – 147.9 bushels per acre, down 12.5 bushels.
- Corn for silage harvested area – 5.9 million acres, down 3%.
- Corn for silage production - 106.3 million tons, down 1%.
- Corn for silage yield – 18.0 tons per acre, up .4 tons.
- Soybeans production - 3.09 billion bushels, down 1%.
- All tobacco production – 639.7 million pounds, down 27%.
- Oats production - 114.9 million bushels, down 1%.
- Area planted to principal crops - 317.7 million acres, down 1%.
- Area harvested for principal crops - 303.6 million acres, down slightly.

U.S. STOCKS TOTALS AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2005.

- Hay stocks on-farm – 105.1 million tons, down 8%.
- Corn stocks on-farm - 6.33 billion bushels, up 3%.
- Corn stocks off-farm - 3.49 billion bushels, up 5%.
- All wheat stocks on-farm - 513 million bushels, down 3%.
- All wheat stocks off-farm - 917 million bushels, up 2%.
- Soybean stocks on-farm - 1.35 billion bushels, up 3%.
- Soybean stocks off-farm - 1.16 billion bushels, up 15%.
- Oats stocks on-farm - 60.1 million bushels, down slightly.
- Oats stocks off-farm - 35.6 million bushels, down 20%.